

The Unity Federation of Church Schools.
Colkirk VA Primary, Sculthorpe VA Primary and West Raynham VA Primary School.

Early Years and Foundation Stage Policy

In the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) setting within The Unity Federation of Church Schools we believe that all children are entitled to the best possible start in their school life, both intellectually and emotionally, in order to enable them to develop their full potential.

We aim to support each child's welfare, learning and developmental needs by:

- Recognising that all children are unique and special and that they develop at varying rates - physically, cognitively, linguistically, socially and emotionally.
- Providing a safe, secure and caring environment where children feel happy and know that they are valued by the all the adults looking after them.
- Fostering and nurturing children's self-confidence and self-esteem through their developing awareness of their own identity and role within the community.
- Teaching them to express and communicate their needs and feelings in appropriate ways.
- Encouraging children's independence and decision-making, supporting them to learn through their mistakes.

- Developing children's understanding of social skills and the values and codes of behaviour required for people to work together harmoniously.
- Supporting children to develop care, respect and appreciation for others, including those with beliefs, cultures and opinions differ to their own.
- Understanding the importance of play in children's learning and development.
- Providing learning experiences in play which reflect children's personal interests and areas of curiosity in order to encourage and develop their natural desire, interest, excitement and motivation to learn.
- Providing experiences which build on children's existing knowledge and understanding in order to challenge, stimulate and extend their learning and development.
- Providing effective learning opportunities in a range of environments, inside and outside.
- To keep parents informed about their child's learning and progress.

The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

Teaching in the EYFS setting within the Unity Federation of Church Schools is delivered in accordance with the government's statutory document 'The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage'.

The curriculum is divided into the following areas;
Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding of the World, Expressive Arts and Design

Assessment.

Assessment is an ongoing task with the children in EYFS, the federation uses an on line tracking tool to collate data on the children's progress each half term. It uses a cloud based recording tool (Orbit) to capture observations and information on a daily basis for children in the EYFS.

- Baseline assessments will be undertaken on the EYFS children by October Half Term providing an age banding for each key area of learning. This is recorded on the on line tracking tool of the federation and compared to age related levels on entry and at each half term to indicate progress measures.
- Children's characteristics of learning are regularly assessed.
- Half termly formal data is entered on to the pupil on line tracker to show progress relating to the age bands for each area of learning.
- Every Child Matters areas are used to initially assess children until they are ready to be moved on to the Early Learning Goals.
- A short report and parents evening for parents happens each term with a full report and copy of the EYFS profile provided to parents at the end of the year.

See also -

Equal Opportunities Policy.
Special Educational Needs Policy

Admissions Policy.
Behaviour Policy.

Date January 2014.
Mrs Yerby Smith

To be reviewed in September 2015